

School, Father Shields then went to Roman Catholic High School at Broad and Vine Streets, the oldest Catholic High School in the nation. He graduated from Roman in 1948 and began his college career at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia. He received his B.A. in Philosophy in 1954 and then began graduate studies in Theology. He completed his Theological studies in 1958 and was ordained to the Priesthood by Cardinal John P. O'Hara, Archbishop of Philadelphia.

The young Father Shields began his priesthood at St. Ambrose Parish in Schuylkill Haven. After that a succession of appointments took him to Shillington, Hamburg, Shendadoh, Allentown, Catasauqua, and Lansford and Reading. He then went to Weatherly, where he spent 22 years as the Pastor of St. Nicholas Parish. In 1995 Father Shields retired and now resides at Holy Family Villa in Bethlehem.

Father Shields is a man of many interests. The greatest of his interests is people. He has a genuine and abiding interest in the people around him. He loves his family. He loves Philadelphia and its history. He has a great love of church music. He has an appreciation and love of architecture as he repeatedly argues, "Don't look down. Look up and see the tops of the buildings!" He loves Cape May. He loves traveling—meeting new people and seeing new scenes. But above all, he loves language—words and concepts.

On Sunday, May 17, 1998 Saint Columbkil Church in Boyertown, Pennsylvania, gathered to honor Father Shields on his Fortieth Anniversary of his priestly ordination. With great love and admiration, his friends and family came to celebrate a good friend, a good priest, a good pastor, and a good Christian man. I am proud to extend to him my most heartfelt good wishes in honor of his forty year achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend to the attention of my colleagues legislation that I am introducing today with my fellow Ways and Means Committee member, ROBERT MATSUI.

Quite simply, this bill will clarify the length of time which petroleum storage facilities are depreciated for tax purposes. Since 1981 the petroleum terminal industry has depreciated this property over a 5 year time period. Recently, however, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has challenged this practice. Instead, the IRS has suggested that the correct depreciable life for petroleum storage facilities is 15 years. My bill will end this debate and state that petroleum storage tanks may be depreciated over five years.

Congress has changed the depreciation rules for numerous properties since 1981, but we have not acted to specifically change the depreciation rules for petroleum storage tanks. The petroleum storage industry has complied with the tax code in good faith, now only to be told the IRS wants to change the rules. The IRS is even instituting this change in selective cases through examinations. While we in Con-

gress do give the IRS the authority to enforce the tax laws, only Congress, and specifically the House Ways and Means Committee, has the Constitutional authority to originate new tax laws.

Enactment of this legislation will resolve this issue, and both the taxpayers in the petroleum storage industry as well as the IRS will be saved the millions of dollars which would otherwise be spent disputing the correct depreciation time. I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this important bill.

MICHIGAN CITY NEWS DISPATCH 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DAY

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson once said of newspapers: "The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Today, June 4th, one of the great papers in the State of Indiana, the Michigan City News-Dispatch, marks 60 years of continuous publication as a daily newspaper. Formed by the merger of the Michigan City News and the Evening Dispatch in 1938, the News-Dispatch has compiled an outstanding record of professionalism and public service. Michigan City and the State of Indiana are fortunate to have a newspaper that sets such a high standard for community service and journalistic competence.

The News-Dispatch is an exceptional newspaper in a variety of ways. Allow me to mention a few examples. First, the dedicated and devoted staff of the News-Dispatch produce a newspaper that is consistent in the high quality of its content. Even though the newspaper has recently changed ownership, the News-Dispatch has retained its reputation as a reliable source of the community's daily information.

Second, the News-Dispatch has been actively involved in and devoted to improving the Michigan City community. From the very beginning of its publication, the News-Dispatch has successfully pursued projects such as helping to rid crime from Michigan City; financially supporting area children's groups; and promoting community pride and civic participation.

Third, the News-Dispatch has been devoted to ensuring that local businesses receive support from the area. By initiating a successful campaign for the development of a municipal airport, voicing the need for more trade within the area, and by organizing a developmental advisory counsel, the News-Dispatch has not only voiced its concern about the livelihood of area businesses, but also taken action to ensure that these businesses are able to thrive in the community.

When Joseph Pulitzer retired, he outlined a standard for newspapers that exemplifies the history of the News-Dispatch. "That it will always fight for progress and reform, never tol-

erate injustice or corruption, always fight demagogues of all parties, never lack sympathy with the poor, always be drastically independent, never be afraid to attack wrong, whether by predatory plutocracy or predatory poverty."

The residents of the News-Dispatch will mark June 4th with the hope and assurance that the newspaper will continue to have a similar impact for many years into the future.

AUDREY A. STRICKER HONORED BY COOPERATIVE OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS, INC. "21ST CENTURY WOMAN OF MEDICINE"

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to your attention that Audrey A. Stricker, a native born and raised Pennsylvanian who did her early nursing training in Pittsburgh, has devoted 30 years to the field of medicine in evolving capacities and is returning home from Los Angeles, CA to the East Coast this month. On June 17, 1998, the Cooperative of American Physicians-Mutual Protection Trust (CAP-MPT) is honoring Ms. Stricker at their Los Angeles headquarters on her retirement to express their appreciation for her 19 years of service to CAP-MPT. The mission of the Cooperative of American Physicians, Inc. is to provide risk reduction and financial protection services of the highest quality for physicians and affiliated groups, and to promote membership in the indemnity trust (MPT). The mission of the Mutual Protection Trust is to provide the highest quality, cost effective professional liability protection services for qualified member physicians and affiliated entities. CAP-MPT continues to strive to put doctors in charge of the business of medicine with its 13 physician member Board of Directors led by President and Chairman Darwood B. Hance, M.D. and its 5 physician member Board of Trustees led by Chairman J. Michael Wormley, M.D. CAP-MPT, as it did in its beginning 21 years ago in response to the California crisis in medical malpractice liability insurance, remains a physician directed enterprise.

Ms. Stricker's early career was devoted to front-line management and delivery of medical care at various hospitals from 1968 until 1979, including: Shadyside Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA as an Operating Room and Recovery Room Supervisor; Director of Operating and Recovery Room Services at Northridge General Hospital, Fort Lauderdale, FL; and finally as Asst. Director of Nursing, Operating Room Services at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. During this period, Ms. Stricker pursued a quest of knowledge and personal growth that mirrors the changing times in medical practice in the United States by enhancing her skills from an R.N. Degree obtained in Pittsburgh, PA to a B.S. in Nursing Degree from the University of Buffalo, N.Y. Continuing in the path of expanding her medical expertise and horizons while serving at Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Ms. Stricker in April, 1980 obtained a B.S. Degree in Management from Pepperdine University, Los Angeles.

With this broad base of educational and professional experience and resources in medicine, Ms. Stricker began in 1979 her service

with CAP-MPT, and from 1987 to 1994 served at different times as both Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of CAP-MPT. Retiring as Executive Vice President, Ms. Stricker is an example of the high quality of CAP-MPT's current leadership team headed by Chief Executive Officer James L. Weidner and their commitment to assisting its physician members in reducing the risks associated with medical practice and to improving the quality of patient care.

It is through CAP-MPT's advocacy and Ms. Stricker's participation in that effort that I become better acquainted, while serving on the House Committee on the Judiciary, with California's 20 year experience with the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) and its important role in holding down the costs of medical care. The MICRA model as employed by CAP-MPT is of renewed significance as the Congress continues to address the issue of managed care and HMO reforms and how to best insure physician control of the patient care.

We welcome home Audrey Stricker as our own Pennsylvania inspired and ever evolving "21st Century Woman of Medicine". She will continue to inspire us, as she did all her colleagues through her steadfast pursuit of excellence. We look forward to the continued success of CAP-MPT's model of patient choice and physician control in its pursuit for the best medical results.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BILL J. JAMES

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and my friend, Dr. Bill J. James, who is retiring this August as Superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District.

I applaud Dr. James for his continuous efforts on behalf of the children and their education in Pleasanton over the last 13 years. He is clearly one of the most recognized and revered educational leaders in the Tenth Congressional District and I thank him for the advice and expertise he has so graciously provided me in my first term.

In 1985, Dr. James came to Pleasanton to serve as the Superintendent of the then Amador Valley Joint Union High School District and the Pleasanton Joint School District. Prior to his arrival in Pleasanton, Dr. James was the Superintendent of the Paso Robles Joint Union High School District and the Paso Robles Union Elementary School District.

Some of the accomplishments in Dr. James' 13 years as Superintendent include the passage of a \$85 million school bond in 1988 with 76% of the vote and the passage of a \$70 million school bond in 1997 with 77% of the vote, the initiation of a Chamber of Commerce education subcommittee that later evolved into the PPIE Foundation, his appointment by the Governor to the Educational Council for Technology and Learning in 1997, the construction of a 1300 capacity middle school, the implementation of elementary counseling for grades K-5 in 1989 and the execution of a developer fee agreement to ensure that new growth covers the cost associated with expanding enrollments.

Dr. James, even with his very busy schedule, has truly been an involved and active member of the community. The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the Pleasanton Rotary Club, the Pleasanton Fine Arts Council, the Tri-Valley Business Council and the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation are just a few of the many organizations Dr. James has contributed his time to over the past 13 years.

Though Dr. James is retiring as Superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District, I take great comfort in knowing that he will continue to reside in Pleasanton. He is an incredible resource on educational matters and he can certainly expect me to continue to take advantage of his expertise. Let me again offer my warmest congratulations for his 13 years of exemplary stewardship of Pleasanton's public schools and his 38 year career in education. I wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

TOBACCO LEGISLATION IN THE 105TH CONGRESS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express some thoughts regarding the legislation dealing with the proposed tobacco settlement.

Several weeks ago I sent a letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, the Honorable TOM BLILEY, asking that as the Committee considers legislation in this area, that it include several elements which I believe are critical to decreasing the rate of tobacco addiction among young people. I would briefly like to outline these points.

First, I strongly believe that any settlement legislation should include language requiring the General Accounting Office or other non-partisan, respected organization to conduct periodic studies on the impact of any tobacco legislation on tobacco usage by young Americans. These studies should examine tobacco usage not only among both teenagers, but also among pre-teenagers.

These follow-up studies are necessary, I believe, for providing policy-makers, including members of Congress, with detailed information on the success or failure of various aspects of a tobacco bill. The findings will also serve as the basis for any future legislative or regulatory changes to our nation's tobacco-reduction efforts. Currently, it is estimated that over 35 percent of high-school seniors smoke—a nineteen-year high—and that since 1991 smoking rates for both eighth and tenth graders have increased dramatically. It is imperative that any policies enacted are successful in reversing these alarming trends.

Second, I also strongly urge that any tobacco legislation include provisions aimed at curtailing the use by young people of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco and cigars. These products are very harmful to young persons. I am particularly disturbed by a Centers for Disease Control study which found that 16 percent of boys in grades nine to twelve use smokeless tobacco products in a thirty-day period. Other reports have found that cigar usage has increased at an alarming rate among American boys and girls.

The inclusion of these two elements will ensure that any tobacco legislation reduce the usage of all types of tobacco products. It will further ensure that Congress is given the data and information necessary to make common sense, effective changes in future tobacco policy with the ultimate goal of significantly decreasing the number of teenagers who smoke.

"U.S. POLICY OPTIONS TOWARD INDONESIA: WHAT WE CAN EXPECT; WHAT WE CAN DO"

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, this Member urges his colleagues to pay careful attention to the crisis in Indonesia. It is far too large, and far too important a nation to dismiss in a cavalier fashion. This Member would take a moment to address the ongoing crisis in Indonesia and to explore what the United States and the international community can do to help stabilize that nation's economy and to help promote its nascent democratization.

Virtually all of Asia seems to be in turmoil these days, and Indonesia is no exception. Following months of economic turmoil and decline, unsatisfactory elections where the old regime sought an artificial vote of confidence, and weeks of student protest, President Suharto resigned after 32 years of autocratic rule. He leaves behind a nation on the edge of chaos. Although we must give Suharto due credit for leading his country through several decades of strong economic growth and development, this narrow economic success took place in the absence of the development of sound social and political institutions. The media was stifled, as were other forms of political and social expression.

The tragic neglect of these institutions and basic human rights by President Suharto may overshadow his economic achievements; only history will tell. Ironically however, President Suharto's neglect of political reform while promoting economic reform has perhaps done more to debunk the myth of Asian values and expose the Asian miracle than any other single action.

Most importantly, however, Suharto's neglect of political reform has caused much human suffering and tragedy. Indonesia's recent past has been marked with violence and bloodshed. Over 500 people died in the riots that left much of Jakarta's Chinatown in ruins. Some estimates have the death toll much higher. Many elites fled the country along with the large expatriate community, taking their capital with them.

The current situation in Indonesia is at the same time both complex and fragile. The public euphoria that accompanied Suharto's resignation is already being replaced by the sobering reality that Indonesia is entering a dangerous period. Suharto—who led his nation through a period of dynamic growth under an autocratic system—has left behind a political vacuum. The various social and political forces kept impotent under the Suharto regime must now forge a new identity and find a way to reassert themselves without causing a splintering of Indonesian society. Proliferation of ethnic or religious-based parties that would pull